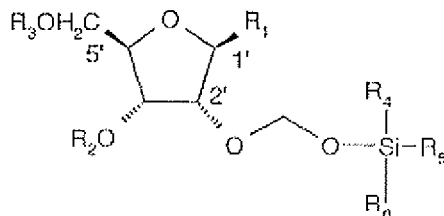


## Amendments to the Claims

This listing of amended claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the specification:

1. (currently amended) A ribonucleoside-derivative of the formula



wherein

$R_1$  is a base of the purine- or pyrimidine- family or a derivative of such a base or any other residue which serves as a nucleobase surrogate,

$R_2$  is a proton or a substituted derivative of phosphoric phosphonic acid,

$R_3$  is a proton or a protection-group for the oxygen atom in 5'-position,

$R_4$ ,  $R_5$  and  $R_6$  are independently alkyl, aryl, or heteroatom substituted with 1-3 substituents independently selected from alkyl, aryl, alkyl-aryl or aryl-alkyl, wherein the heteroatom is selected from among O, N, Si, Ge, Sn and Pb; or any two of  $R_4$ ,  $R_5$  and  $R_6$  taken in combination with the Si to which they are attached, form a heterocyclic ring or aryl or a combination of alkyl and aryl or heteroatom,  $R_4$ ,  $R_5$  or  $R_6$  may also be cyclically connected to each other;

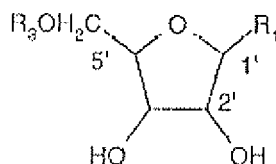
and

wherein at least one of the  $R_4$ ,  $R_5$  or  $R_6$  substituents comprises a tertiary C-atom or a heteroatom that is directly bonded vicinal to the Si-atom.

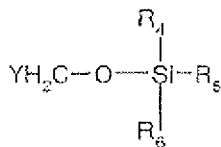
2. (currently amended) A ribonucleoside-derivative according to claim 1 wherein the substituent comprising the tertiary C-atom directly bonded vicinal to the Si-atom comprises from 4 to 24 C-atoms.
3. (currently amended) A ribonucleoside-derivative according to claim 1 wherein the substituent comprising the tertiary C-atom directly bonded vicinal to the Si-atom is an alkyl-substituent selected from the group consisting of tert-butyl, tert-pentyl, tert-hexyl, tert-heptyl, tert-octyl, tert-nonyl, tert-decyl, tert-undecyl, tert-dodecyl.
4. (currently amended) A ribonucleoside-derivative according to claim 1 wherein the substituent comprising the tertiary C-atom directly bonded vicinal to the Si-atom is selected

from the group of 1,1-dimethyl ethyl, 1,1-dimethyl-propyl, 1,1-dimethyl-butyl, 1,1-dimethyl-pentyl, 1,1-dimethyl-hexyl, 1,1,2-trimethyl-propyl, 1,1,2-trimethyl-butyl, 1,1,2-trimethyl-pentyl, 1,1,2-trimethyl-hexyl, 1,1,2,2 tetramethyl-propyl, 1,1,2,2-tetramethyl-butyl.

5. (currently amended) A ribonucleoside-derivative according to claim 1 wherein the ~~substituent vicinal to the Si atom comprises a~~ one of R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub> and R<sub>6</sub> is a heteroatom substituted with 1-3 substituents independently selected from alkyl, aryl, alkyl-aryl or aryl-alkyl, and wherein the heteroatom is selected from among O, N, Si, Ge, Sn and Pb substituted heteroatom.
6. (currently amended) A ribonucleoside-derivative according to claim 5 wherein the substituent directly bondedvicinal to the Si-atom comprises a substituted bivalent heteroatom.
7. (original) A ribonucleoside-derivative according to claim 6 wherein the heteroatom is oxygen.
8. (currently amended) A method for the preparation of a ribonucleoside-derivative according to claim 1, comprising reacting a nucleoside with the formula



where R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are as defined in claim 1, with a silyloxymethylderivative of the formula

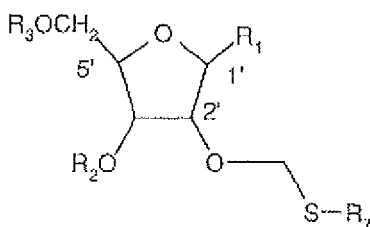


wherein Y is a suitable leaving group

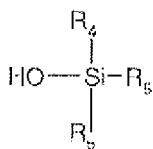
and wherein R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub> and R<sub>6</sub> are as defined in claim 1independently alkyl or aryl or a combination of alkyl and aryl or a heteroatom, ~~R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub> or R<sub>6</sub> may also be cyclically connected to each other.~~

9. (original) The method of claim 8 wherein Y is a halogen.
10. (previously amended) The method of claim 8 wherein R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub> and R<sub>6</sub> together comprise between 3 and 30 carbon atoms.

11. (currently amended) The method of claims 8 wherein  $R_4$ ,  $R_5$  or  $R_6$  comprise at least one substituted heteroatom directly bonded ~~vicinal to the~~ Si atom.
12. (original) The method of claim 11 wherein the heteroatom is a bivalent atom.
13. (original) The method of claim 12 wherein the heteroatom is oxygen.
14. (currently amended) The method of claim 11 wherein the ribonucleoside derivative is further substituted on the oxygen in 3'-position with a group comprising of a derivative of phosphoric phosphonic acid.
15. (currently amended) A method for the preparation of a ribonucleoside-derivative, comprising reacting a ribonucleoside derivative with the formula



upon an electrophilic activation with a compound of formula:



wherein  $R_1$ ,  $R_4$ ,  $R_5$  and  $R_6$  are [is] defined as in claim 1 and  $R_7$  is a alkyl- or aryl-group, or alkyl-aryl-group,  
 wherein  $R_2$  is a protecting group, and  
 wherein  $R_3$  is a protecting group,  
 wherein  $R_4$ ,  $R_5$  and  $R_6$  are identical or different alkyl or aryl or a combination of alkyl and aryl substituents, which may be further substituted with heteroatoms and which may also cyclically be connected to each other.

16. (cancelled) The method of claim 15 wherein  $R_4$ ,  $R_5$  and  $R_6$  are defined as in claim 1.
17. (currently amended) The method of claim 15 wherein the ribonucleoside derivative is further substituted on the oxygen in 3'-position with a group comprising of a derivative of phosphoric phosphonic acid.